



## **1085<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**

**8:00PM Wednesday September 27, 2006  
Room 370, Building C, Fort Mason  
San Francisco, California**

## **The US National Banking System**

*Elliot Wehner*

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**Pacific Coast Numismatic Society  
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Please join us Wednesday, September 27 to hear *Elliot Wehner's* presentation based on his PCNS paper detailing the history of the National Banking System and its associated banknotes

**1084<sup>th</sup> meeting. August 24, 2006: A Numismatic Walking Tour of San Francisco** *Michael Wehner* (reviewed by *Herb Miles*) Michael gave the assembled members a tour of numismatically related sites around downtown San Francisco, a reworking of his 2005 ANA walking tour and article in anticipation of presenting an expanded version of this talk at the California State Numismatic Association Symposium in Vallejo this October.

Notable places mentioned and photographed were the Bank of California on the corner of Battery and California Streets. This magnificent edifice houses a great collection of pioneer gold that is hardly known to the general public. Some early San Francisco bankers, Adams & Company and Page, Bacon & Company were mentioned next as Michael exhibited checks and bank drafts from the two which were located nearby.

The Wells Fargo History room on Montgomery Street is another great site to visit or bring out-of-towners as it contains a refurbished stagecoach, a vigilante medal and a host of other Wells Fargo items. It even sells souvenirs to those happening to wander in off the street. The walking tour next visited the site of the first San Francisco Mint on Commercial Street, now the home of the Pacific Heritage Museum. Continuing down toward the current Transamerica Pyramid building we find the Transamerica Redwood Garden, formerly the site of the Montgomery Block, San Francisco's early financial district.

Michael exhibited a token from the A.P. Hotelling Whiskey company, and an exchange certificate featuring the future Civil War general, William T. Sherman, who was in business with Lucas, Turner & Company during his stay in the city.

Next came the Barbary Coast with its tokens, bars and dance halls. The Hippodrome, a building still standing, is now used for more upscale businesses. Finally, we visited the "Old Ship Saloon" on Battery Street, a bar that originally was built from the remains of a sailing vessel that was scuttled once it reached San Francisco when the sailors all left for the gold mines in the gold country. The ship's timbers and framework became the entrance to a bar called the Old Ship and to this day, some of the timbers can be seen in this modern reconstruction of Gold Rush era San Francisco.



**Exhibits (August 2006).** (reported by *Herb Miles*)

*John Dale* brought an interesting one ounce or so silver round featuring Don Munson, former Coach of the Year when he was head basketball coach of the Idaho Vandals.

*Federico Castillo* exhibited some Costa Rican coins and tokens; a 1 Colon with a countermark, some coffee tokens which were used as necessary money in the company stores, some tokens from his home town, some current plastic credit chits that are given to workers in place of cash!

*Gordon Donnell* brought items from the recent ANA convention, although he did not attend, friends and neighbors brought numerous tokens as gifts; an ANA Passport missing only Singapore, a mint that actually did not attend, some Dillard elongated coins featuring two distinct designs, some badges, an encased Canadian quarter, a "time token", a Polo Shirt and 2 Philatelic Numismatic Covers honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Denver Mint and the ANA Convention.

*Herb Miles* brought two San Francisco items, a mirror from the West Coast Life Insurance Company and a paper bank from the Federal Credit Union.

*Rick Webster* exhibited a nice new Colorado Quarter found in change, and an 1822 United Kingdom crown that probably had been a pocket piece.

*Michael Wehner* exhibited a restruck medal from the French Mint, which had been struck originally to honor the rebirth of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire.

*Mark Wm Clark* brought an 8 reales auction catalog from Ponterio, a stock certificate from San Francisco Cuba, a Philippines collector's forum silver medal, ANA souvenirs including elongates from WIN, Dillard's types, and a new Ken Bressett book autographed by the author.

**Raffle (August 2006)** (*Elliot Wehner*, raffle chairman)

1969 U.S. Proof Set, to *Mark Wm. Clark*

1973 Netherlands Antilles Silver 2 Gulden to *Herb Miles*

Several German Inflation Notes to *Ed Treuting*

A Philippines Coin Book to *Mark Wm. Clark*

A Humboldt County Check from Nevada City, California to *Gordon Donnell*

A roll of Shell Oil US President tokens to *Ed Treuting*

### **Parking update!**

Parking in the Fort Mason lot is being charged at the rate \$2/hour. However, we have learned that parking just outside the toll gate is still free until 10PM. As meetings are generally out well before 9:30, you can save some money by walking the length of the parking lot. Also, there appears to be plenty of street parking along Marina Blvd and the surrounding neighborhood. Please don't let this annoyance get in the way of attending PCNS meetings!

### **Tentative 2006 future programs**

October: Stephen Huston TBA

November: How about you?

December: Holiday potluck party

Please contact Michael Wehner if you would like to speak in 2006 or 2007 at (415) 928-4469 or [mf\\_wehner@yahoo.com](mailto:mf_wehner@yahoo.com)

**Granite Lady Commemorative Coins now available for preordering!** Striking will begin in December. See [usmint.gov](http://usmint.gov) or call 1-800-USA-MINT. Note that the surcharges benefit the reconstruction of the Granite Lady and a planned museum in San Francisco.

